## BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2003-50-S - ORDER NO. 2006-53

JANUARY 27, 2006

IN RE:	Application of United Utility Companies, Inc.	)	ORDER
	for Approval of Expansion of Service Area to	)	<b>APPROVING</b>
	Include Certain Portions of Greenville County,	)	<b>MOTIONS</b>
	South Carolina and Approval of a Contract to	)	
	Serve the School District of Greenville County	)	
		)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Joint Motion for approval of a pending amendment to a contract and approval of a contract between the parties of record and the School District of Greenville County. The Joint Motion requests processing of this matter without a hearing and on an expedited basis. The Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) has no objection to the request.

The Joint Motion is made by the Applicant in the Docket United Utility

Companies, Inc (UUC) and Intervenor Western Regional Carolina Sewer Authority

(WCRSA), who jointly move that the Commission (1) approve the pending Amendment
to Contract between UUC and the School District of Greenville County (SDGC) in the
instant docket and (2) the Agreement between UUC, WCRSA and SDGC executed as of
December 5, 2005 (the Three Way Agreement). UUC and WCRSA also move that such
approval be granted without hearing based upon the written documentation in the
Commission's file and on an expedited basis. In support of their Joint Motion, UUC and
WCRSA provide specific information.

By motion dated March 30, 2005, UUC submitted to the Commission for its approval of a March 7, 2005, amendment to the January 29, 2003, contract between UUC and SDGC providing the terms and conditions under which UUC would provide sewer service to SDGC's Woodmont High School project. This contract was approved by Commission Order No. 2003-229. The effect of the March 7, 2005 amendment was to recognize that UUC would provide collection only service to the Project, with WCRSA to provide treatment services for which it would bill SDGC directly. As noted in the March 30, 2005, Motion, UUC was informed and believed that SDGC had finalized the arrangements by which service was to be provided to the Project by WCRSA.

On April 18, 2005, WCRSA filed a Petition to Intervene in this docket, asserting, *inter alia*, that an agreement between it, SDGC and UUC regarding the interconnection of the collection facilities to be owned and operated by UUC was required notwithstanding the fact that WCRSA would be billing SDGC directly for treatment service to the Project.

Although sewer service has not been initiated at the Project, SDGC required that Woodmont High School open for the fall term commencing August, 2005. Accordingly, SDGC sought and received a temporary "pump and haul" permit from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) which allowed it to meet its opening date. Although that permit was set to expire in November 2005, SCDHEC has permitted SDGC to continue operating pursuant to that permit. In the interim period, SDGC has constructed an interconnection between the UUC collection facilities installed to serve the Project and the treatment facilities of WCRSA.

UUC, WCRSA, and SDGC have now entered into the Three Way Agreement, which provides for the terms and conditions under which the UUC collection facilities that will serve the Project will be interconnected to WCRSA's treatment facilities which will serve the Project. The Three Way Agreement resolves WCRSA's concerns with respect to this proceeding, according to UUC and WCRSA. UUC and WCRSA submit that the Amendment to Contract and the Three Way Agreement are in the public interest in that they will allow the Project to receive sanitary sewer service and, thus, allow SDGC to eliminate its pump and haul arrangement for the Project.

UUC and WCRSA further submit that a hearing in this matter is neither required nor necessary under the statute or under the Commission's regulations, and that expedited consideration of the Joint Motion is appropriate, given that the subject matter involves the extension of sanitary sewer service to a public school. Counsel for both parties certify that they have consulted with counsel for the ORS, and that ORS does not oppose the Joint Motion. Accordingly, counsel for UUC and WCRSA request that the Commission consider the Joint Motion on an expedited basis, without a hearing and grant the relief requested in UUC's March 30, 2005, motion in this docket and the relief sought by the Joint Motion herein.

We have examined this matter and we agree that the matter may be considered on an expedited basis. We will proceed to do so. Accordingly, we grant the relief requested in UUC's March 30, 2005, motion in this docket, including the approval of the amendment to the contract between UUC and SDGC, and the relief sought by the Joint Motion herein, including approval of the Three Way Agreement. We believe that any

concerns that had remained after the March 30, 2005, Motion are now resolved by approval of the Three Way Agreement. Approval of the original motion and the Joint Motion are in the public interest, in that this will allow the Project to receive sanitary sewer service, and, therefore, allow SDGC to eliminate its pump and haul arrangement for the Project.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice-Chairman

(SEAL)